

CUMBERLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

APRIL 13, 2006

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, April 12, 2006 at the Administrative Office/Cafetorium, 2602 Mendon Road, was called to order at 6:34 PM, by Chairman Paul Neves, with the following present:

Paul Neves, Chairman, Donald J. Costa, Vice Chair, Arthur DaCosta, Clerk,

Rosa Crowley, Robert C. Thibodeau, Earl T. Wood

Also Present: Donna A. Morelle, Ed.D., Superintendent, Joseph A. Rotella, Esq., Director of Administration

Absent: Linda Teel

I. Vote to go into Executive Session for Discussion and/or Action Items Referred to in GLRI 42-46-5

A. Personnel Matters - Exception (1)

1. CTA/ICSE

Mr. DaCosta made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Ms. Crowley provided a second. On a roll call vote, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the motion. Open Session recessed at 6:35 p.m.

Open Session reconvened at 7:35 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance - The Pledge of Allegiance was led by committee members.

III. Approval of Agenda - On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the agenda.

IV. Chairperson's Report - None.

V. Comments from the Public - None.

VI. Reports of Standing Committees

A. Rules And Regulations Committee - Mr. DaCosta reported they met earlier and the first reading of the Key Policy is later on the agenda.

VII. Consent Agenda - On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the Consent Agenda without the Personnel Recommendations and the Police Report.

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B. Truancy Report

C. Approval of Minutes

1. Open Session: 3/9/06, 3/23/06

2. Executive Session: 3/9/06, 3/22/06, 3/23/06

3. Special Meeting: 3/1/06, 3/22/06, 3/28/06

D. Facilities Report

E. Enrollment Report

A. Police Report - Mr. Costa noted he was disheartened by the number of larcenies at the High School. The Superintendent reported that Mr. Driscoll did make a report and she would add that a future agenda. Mr. Thibodeau questions the locker issue and the Superintendent reported that the Property Committee will be addressing that. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the police report.

B. Personnel - The following were presented by the Superintendent:

1. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was voted 6-0 to approve the following retirements:

a. Joan Costa, Teacher Assistant at Ashton School, effective 12/31/06.

b. Joyce Hindle-Koutsogiane, Principal at Joseph McCourt Middle School, effective 6/30/06.

c. Andre Lamoureaux, Night Custodian at Cumberland High School, effective 5/30/06.

d. Barbara Logan, Teacher Assistant at Ashton School, effective 4/14/06.

e. Frances Simskie, Clerk/Receptionist, effective 6/14/06.

2. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the resignations of:

a. Thomas Natal, School-to-Work Coordinator at Cumberland High School, effective at the end of the 2005-2006 school year.

b. Karin Welt, Secretary to the Assistant Superintendent, effective May 6, 2006.

3. On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was VOTED 6-0 TO

APPROVE the request of Sarah Brady, World Language Teacher at North Cumberland Middle School, for a FMLA Maternity Leave, effective 5/15/06 to the end of the 2005-2006 school year.

4. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. DaCosta and Ms. Crowley, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the appointment of Felisbela Martins to the position of Night Custodian at Cumberland High School, effective 4/14/06 (step 1, budgeted, co-pay 10%).

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VIII. Old Business

A. Building Committee Update - The Superintendent reported that Phase III work at the High School was moving forward efficiently and the relationship between KBA and Dimeo is developing nicely. They have brought a technical consultant on board who will be meeting

with the Technology Director. She also reported the committee voted to authorize KBA and Dimeo to pursue a fire suppression system.

B. Search Committee Update - Mr. Rotella reported the screening of applicants for the B.F. Norton Principal is complete and interviews are scheduled for April 28th. He is trying to confirm interviews for the Assistant Superintendent for April 26th. The committee for the High School Assistant Principals will be formed in the next week. He noted Mr. Driscoll will be on that committee. Mr. Thibodeau asked if anyone interested could be on that committee and the Superintendent noted they have seven to eight members with representatives from all aspects of the community.

IX. New Business

A. RIDE School Support System Report and Support Plan - Ms. Moore reported work began last summer for this report. She reviewed the report, noting the areas they are doing really well in are family communications, parent involvement, PTO's, Just Friends and the volunteer program. She also noted additional professional development was recommended and that has been taking place since the visit in November.

B. Home School Instruction Request - On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Ms. Crowley and Mr. DaCosta, it was VOTED 5-1 TO APPROVE the recommendation of the Assistant Superintendent for Home Schooling, with Mr. DaCosta voting against.

C. District Strategic Planning - The Superintendent reported two strategic planning sessions have been planned for Tuesday, April

25th in the evening and a full day session on Saturday, April 29th. They have put together a team of members of the School Improvement Teams, business partners and building administrators. They will be providing new action plans to submit to the Department of Education.

D. Key Policy - 1st Reading - Mr. DaCosta performed the first reading of the new Key Policy. Mr. Rotella explained the changing of the wording of “will” to “may” on number 7, explaining there would be proper notification on the form. Also, on number 9, an individual who has been given the key has a responsibility not to duplicate it and it should say it should not be loaned to another person.

X. Superintendent’s Report - Dr. Morelle invited the committee to observe the work at the strategic planning workshop which she will facilitate. She congratulated the High School on obtaining a \$47,000 technology grant. She also commended North Cumberland Middle School for their application and noted that it might be modified for an upcoming Champlin Fund grant. Sixteen teachers will be receiving portfolio training this summer. The Superintendent commented on Dr. Koutsogiane’s retirement at McCourt Middle School and wished her well in future endeavors.

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She commented that Dr. Koutsogiane was looking forward to the dedication of McCourt Middle School on May 10th. Dr. Morelle also

recognized Mrs. Simskie's retirement and wished her well. The Superintendent noted she and Ms. Dutremble will be giving an updated financial report to the Town Council next Wednesday. Also on Wednesday, she and Mr. Rotella will be at URI to recruit talent into the school system. Ms. Moore, Ms. DiCesare, Ms. Reinalda and Mr. Driscoll will also be interviewing candidates.

XI. Comments from the Public - Mrs. Richard requested clarification and will come to the Superintendent's office. Mr. McLaughlin thanked the committee and the Superintendent for their generosity in fund raising for the trip to Disney by special needs students.

XII. School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports) - Mr. Costa thanked the St. Thomas Council for their generosity for the kids going to Florida. He also recognized Dr. Koutsogiane as a former classmate and noted she has been a loyal employee. The Chair also thanked Dr. Koutsogiane for everything she has done for the school department. He reported the alternative learning project at the High School has completed a project to promote auto safety by using seat belts. The premier of this public service announcement will be at the High School April 26th.

On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE sealing the Executive Session minutes.

XIII. Vote to go into Executive Session for Discussion and/or Action

Items Referred to in GLRI 42-46-5

A. Personnel Matters - Exception (1)

1. CTA/ICSE

B. Negotiations/Litigation - Exception (2)

1. CTA/ICSE

2. Central Administrators' Contracts

3. Non-Contractual Salaries

No additional Executive Session was necessary.

XIV. Adjournment - On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE adjourning the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Harris

Recording Secretary

Subject to approval by the School Committee